

1. **DESCRIPTION:** This event will test student knowledge of North American trees that are on the Official National Tree List.

A TEAM OF UP TO: 2

APPROXIMATE TIME: 50 minutes

2. **EVENT PARAMETERS:**

Each team may bring **two** 8.5" x 11" two-sided pages of information in any form from any source (e.g., **notes, tree lists, etc.**) and up to two commercially published **resources** that may be annotated and tabbed (limit 3 words).



3. **THE COMPETITION:**

- a. For the **National** Competition, all questions will be restricted to specimens on the **Official Science Olympiad National Tree List**. For **Regional and State Competitions**, the **State Director may reduce the national list to local or regional trees and add a few local species not on the National List**. This **State List** should be sent to competing teams as soon as possible so teams may gather specimens.
 - b. This event may be held either indoors or in a wood lot or both. Specimens (or pictures/slides if necessary) will be lettered or numbered at stations. Each team will be given one answer sheet to record the Genus and species name and the answers to the correlated questions.
 - c. **Leaf specimens used for identification (compound leaves should be intact) may be live, preserved, or color photographs depending on availability and may be accompanied by twigs, cones, seeds, or other parts of the tree.** For each specimen, students will be asked a correlated question that pertains to the tree's structure, ecology, or economic characteristics. Structural characteristics may include leaf types, leaf shapes, leaf margins, leaf venation, leaf arrangement on the stem, twigs, bark, flowers, cones, fruits, seeds, and tree shapes.
 - d. Ecological characteristics may include habitats, adaptations to the environment, biomes, succession, and relationships (e.g., symbiosis and competition) with animals or other plants. Economic characteristics may include beneficial or detrimental aspects of trees such as sources of food, medicine, building materials, chemicals, fuel, fiber, and trees as nuisance species.
4. **SCORING:** The teams with the highest number of correct answers will be the winners. Selected questions may be used as tiebreakers.

Recommended Resources: All specimens listed on the **Official Science Olympiad National Tree List** are represented in the **National Audubon Society Field Guide(s) to Trees** (Eastern and Western regions), which are available on the Official Science Olympiad Store or Website at <http://www.soinc.org> as are all reference and training resources.